

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel supply system installed inside a fuel tank to supply fuel out of the fuel tank, the fuel supply system comprising:

a cover, which is attached to the fuel tank; and  
a pump unit that includes an electric fuel pump, which pumps fuel; and  
a connecting member, which connects between the cover and the pump unit in a manner that allows relative movement between the cover and the pump unit,

wherein the pump unit further includes a supporting portion, which has:

a through hole that penetrates through the supporting portion and axially slidably receives the connecting member in a reciprocable manner; and

~~at least one groove~~ a plurality of grooves that ~~is~~ are recessed in an inner peripheral surface of the supporting portion and, which is slidably engageable with the connecting member.

2. (Currently Amended) The fuel supply system according to claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one groove extends~~ the plurality of grooves extend in an axial direction of the through hole.

3. Cancelled.

4. (Currently Amended) The fuel supply system according to claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein:

the inner peripheral surface of the supporting portion ~~are~~ is divided into a plurality of surface sub-sections by the grooves; and

each groove, a central axis of the through hole and a corresponding one of the surface sub-sections are aligned along an imaginary line in a plane perpendicular to the central axis of the through hole.

5. (Original) The fuel supply system according to claim 1, wherein a material of the connecting member is different from a material of the supporting portion.

6. (Original) The fuel supply system according to claim 1, wherein the pump unit further includes a sub-tank, which receives the fuel pump.

7. (Original) The fuel supply system according to claim 6, wherein the supporting portion is disposed inside the sub-tank.

8. (Original) The fuel supply system according to claim 6, wherein the supporting portion is disposed outside the sub-tank.

9. (Original) The fuel supply system according to claim 8, wherein:  
  
the sub-tank includes a recess, which is formed by radially inwardly recessing a portion of an outer peripheral wall of the sub-tank; and  
  
the supporting portion is positioned in the recess.

10. (Original) The fuel supply system according to claim 8, wherein the sub-tank has a projection, which projects radially outward from the sub-tank and is engageable with an end of the connecting member, which is opposite from the cover.